

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion into the Planned Merger Between SJW Group, Holding Company of San Jose Water Company (U168W), and Connecticut Water Service, Inc. and its Effect on California Ratepayers and the California Economy.

Investigation 18-07-007

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to July 12, 2020.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(i) provides that adjudicatory cases must be resolved within 12 months of initiation unless the Commission makes findings why that deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. In this proceeding, the 12-month deadline for its resolution was July 12, 2019.

On July 12, 2018, the Commission initiated this Order Instituting Investigation (OII) into the planned merger between SJW Group, Holding Company of San Jose Water Company (San Jose Water), and Connecticut Water Service, Inc. and its effect on California ratepayers and the California economy. On August 15, 2018, San Jose Water filed its joint response to the Order Instituting Investigation.

A Prehearing Conference (PHC) was held on August 22, 2018, to determine parties, discuss the scope, the schedule, and other procedural matters. The Scoping Memo was issued on September 7, 2018. A Public Participation Hearing (PPH) was held on January 31, 2019.

On March 4, 2019, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued a ruling suspending the proceeding pending action by the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority regarding SJW Group's application for acquisition of Connecticut Water Services Company. In the ruling, the ALJ also ordered San Jose Water to serve on this Commission and the service list for this proceeding a final decision of the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority. On April 19, 2019, the City of San Jose filed a motion requesting the Commission to lift the suspension of this investigation.

Based on the current proceeding status, an extension of the statutory deadline until July 12, 2020, is necessary to wait for the final decision of the application before the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Pursuant to Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving adjudicatory proceedings.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Liane Randolph is the assigned Commissioner and Karl J. Bemederfer is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this adjudication proceeding was July 12, 2019.

2. A PHC was held on August 22, 2018 and a PPH was held on January 31, 2019.

3. The Scoping Memo was issued on September 7, 2018.

4. On March 4, 2019, the assigned ALJ issued a ruling suspending the proceeding pending action by the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority regarding SJW Group's application for acquisition of Connecticut Water Services Company.

5. An extension of the statutory deadline until July 12, 2020, is necessary to wait for the final decision of the application before the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority.

Conclusion of Law

Pursuant to the Commission's authority under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(i), the statutory deadline should be extended until July 12, 2020.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until July 12, 2020.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at Los Angeles, California.